

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEXAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Texas Motor Speedway for celebrating 10 successful years of racing. The facility is located in the heart of North Texas, between Fort Worth and Denton in the 26th District of Texas.

The Texas Motor Speedway has hosted several NASCAR, Indy Racing League, and other prestigious motor sport races since its inaugural year in 1997. Millions of enthusiastic fans have flocked to enjoy the modern racing and entertainment facilities at one of the fastest tracks in the Nation.

The Texas Motor Speedway has a tremendous impact on the North Texas economy by bringing millions of dollars to businesses, hotels, restaurants, and attractions in the area. The Speedway continues to exceed predictions of its regional economic impact each year.

As an avid racing fan, I regularly attend events at the Texas Motor Speedway. I am pleased to have such a fine facility in the North Texas community, and I proudly boast of its accomplishments on my Congressional Web site. In addition to hosting races, the Texas Motor Speedway also supports a number of worthy charities in the North Texas community.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Texas Motor Speedway for 10 distinguished years of serving the racing and Texas communities. I look forward to many more.

A TRIBUTE TO SENATOR SERGIO DE GREGORIO HONORABLE ROBERT A. BRADY

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our colleague from the Republic of Italy, the Honorable Sergio De Gregorio.

Senator De Gregorio was elected Senator of the Republic of Italy on April 10th, 2006. As President of the Defense Committee for the Republic of Italy, Senator De Gregorio is one of the most important national security officials in one of our most important allied states.

Prior to his election to the Senate, Mr. De Gregorio served as a pioneering journalist who produced many important reports on organized crime, various wars and conflicts in almost every corner of the world. He further established his international credentials during his tenure as Assistant to European Parliament, a position he held until 2004.

Mr. Speaker, the City of Philadelphia is proud to host Senator De Gregorio and 15 distinguished Italian delegates, including four members of his committee: Hon. Paolo Guzzanti; Hon. Filippo Berselli; Hon. Calogero Mannino; and Hon. Gianni Nieddu, as well as Princess Josephine Pritchard Borghese and Hon. Salvatore Ferrigno, to Philadelphia for a

four-day tour of the city and its various Italian American businesses, factories and importers. Their visit will also include three events to raise funds for the construction of an Italian American Cultural Center to be located in Northeast Philadelphia.

The Republic of Italy has long been a critically important ally in the fight against terrorism and against organized crime. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I am pleased that this important delegation will be touring defense facilities in my District. And, as a son of Italy, I am equally proud that they will be doing so much to help us create the Italian American Cultural Center. I know that all of my colleagues will join me in welcoming them to the United States.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP-ELECT  
RANDALL E. HOLTS

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Bishop-Elect Randall E. Holts on the occasion of his recent election and appointment as Bishop last Sunday, November 12, 2006. He is currently serving as the senior Pastor of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Miami.

Deeply devoted to his vocation, Bishop Holts has spearheaded many spiritual revival symposia that have enlightened the community through his insightful theological teachings and preaching of God's Word. Guided by the motto, "Building Strong Families for the 21st Century," he has admirably paved the way for a clearer understanding and deeper commitment on the part of his Congregation toward the Sacred Scriptures.

In 1997, he formed a leadership team that focused on the emergence of the "New Hope Development Center, Inc.," a 501c3 non-profit corporation, to ensure self-sufficiency of families through economic empowerment to enhance the quality of life of both Church members and other people from surrounding neighborhoods. Indeed, it is fitting and proper to give praise to Almighty God for blessing this Church with the longevity of Bishop-Elect Holt's service to his Congregation, and to all those who seek comfort and solace in its Church Sanctuary.

A native of Miami, Florida, Bishop-Elect Holts obtained his early education from the Miami-Dade County Public Schools and went on to get his Bachelor's degree in 1976 from the University of Florida's School of Business majoring in Banking and Finance. He worked in the banking profession for the next 20 years, for which he obtained praise and tribute from his colleagues. As he retired from his professional banking ventures, he committed his full-time service as Pastor of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. He now also serves on the Board of Directors for North Shore Medical Center, as well as on the Collective Banking Group of Miami-Dade & Vicinity, and other community-based organizations.

He is married to Prophetess Sharlene Denise Holts and has been blessed in this Holy Matrimony for over 30 years. Three children were born out of this happy union—Shontel, Ericka and Randall II—along with two

grandsons, Jaelyn and Justin. He has led his Church with a good mixture of old-time religion and civic responsibility that continues to strengthen the members, not only to become spiritual and moral leaders, but also responsible and conscientious guardians of good government and civic pride.

Indeed, his inspiring leadership is genuinely admirable. As a servant of God and as a spiritual leader he has earned the community's deepest respect. This is the legacy with which he now guides his Church, and I extend to him my heartfelt congratulations.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO E. STEVEN  
SMITH

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of E. Steven Smith, who passed away on Monday, October 16, 2006.

Dr. Smith, a leader in forensic dentistry, was the founding dean of the UNLV School of Dental Medicine, the first dental school in the State of Nevada. He oversaw the school's founding from 1999 until 2002, when the first students entered the school.

When he moved to Las Vegas to lead the dental school, Dr. Smith began volunteering his time and expertise with the Clark County coroner's office in examining dental records. His efforts often provided closure for family members who may otherwise not have known the fate of a missing loved one.

Dr. Smith was also the founder of the Crackdown on Cancer Initiative. This body would travel to schools throughout Nevada to warn students about the effects of tobacco on the mouth, providing an invaluable public service.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of E. Steven Smith. Under his leadership, Nevada now has a world class institution for Dental Medicine education. His amalgamation of professional success and community activism is exemplary. He will be greatly missed.

CONGRATULATING MAYOR WALTER CONWAY UPON BEING NAMED "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR" BY THE DELAWARE WATER GAP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Walter Conway, mayor of Delaware Water Gap, Monroe County, Pennsylvania.

Mayor Conway has been named "Citizen of the Year" by the Delaware Water Gap Chamber of Commerce and will be honored at an award dinner Tuesday, Oct. 17, at the Water Gap Country Club.

A graduate of St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Mayor Conway and his wife, Cathy, have two children, Cathleen Conway and Mrs. Wendy Scott.